



Northern Great Plains Network

Inventory and Monitoring Monthly Report

May 2006



New Office: The NPS Northern Great Plains I&M Program is now located in Rapid City, on a property adjacent to the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology campus and owned by the school's foundation. The new address is:

National Park Service
Suite 210
306 East St. Joseph Street
Rapid City, South Dakota 57701

The phone numbers for the office are:

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|---------------|----------|
| Main line | 341-2800 |
| Dan Licht | 341-2802 |
| Marcia Wilson | 341-2803 |
| Joel Brumm | 341-2804 |
| Bob Gitzen | 341-2806 |
| Amy Symstad | 341-2807 |
| fax | 341-2819 |

Email addresses are of course the same as always. Thanks to Andy Banta for giving us a lead on some surplus furniture from BLM.

Phase II: In early June the draft of the Phase II report of the monitoring plan was forwarded to the Technical Committee for review (with a request to have comments back by June 30). Phase II includes discussion of the selection of Vital Signs, and a tentative list of those Vital Signs. Successful submission of Phase II satisfies GPRA Ib3. The Phase II draft is quite a bit shorter than Phase I because much of the background material in the original Phase I has been moved to an appendix. This is consistent with WASO guidance to keep the "plan" to around 100 pages and to make copious use of appendices.

SDSU Water Sampling Data: As part of developing the Network's water quality monitoring plan, Dr. Nels Troelstrup of South Dakota State University collected baseline water quality data from Network parks, including aquatic macroinvertebrates. Over 200 taxa were identified. Dr. Troelstrup recently hired a student to enter the water quality and aquatic macroinvertebrate data into NPStoret. The NPStoret database is the NPS water quality system that links and uploads data to EPA's Storet database. Data entry should be completed by the end of the summer. WASO is currently working on a utility to link and/or convert records in NPStoret with biological information to NPSpecies.